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YEARS AGO, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT MILES MORALES WAS BITTEN BY A GENETICALLY ALTERED SPIDER AND GAINED INCREDIBLE ARACHNID-LIKE ABILITIES: THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF A SPIDER, ADHESIVE FINGERS AND TOES, THE POWER TO DIRECT A BIO-ELECTRIC CHARGE LIKE A STING, TO CAMOUFLAGE HIMSELF TO THE POINT OF INVISIBILITY, AND TO DETECT APPROACHING DANGER USING HIS PRECOGNITIVE "SPIDER-SENSE." HE HID THESE ABILITIES AT FIRST, UNTIL A HERO INSPIRED HIM TO USE THEM TO TRY TO MAKE THE WORLD MORE JUST.

PART UNDEAD SERIAL KILLER, PART ALIEN GOD–CARNAGE HAS RETURNED. FOR YEARS, EVERY KLYNTAR SYMBIOTE THAT BONDED WITH AN EARTHLING LEFT A GENETIC REMNANT–A "CODEX"–BEHIND. CARNAGE INTENDS TO TAKE THEM ALL.

ONE CODEX WAS IN THE SPINE OF MAC GARGAN/SCORPION. CARNAGE CAPTURED INMATES FROM THE RAVENCROFT INSTITUTE FOR THE CRIMINALLY INSANE–COVERING THEM IN CHUNKS OF HIS SYMBIOTE BODY IN ORDER TO CONTROL THEM–AND SENT THESE DOPPELGANGERS AFTER GARGAN. THEY FOUND THEIR QUARRY JUST AFTER A ROBBERY, AS SPIDER-MAN WAS TRYING TO APPREHEND HIM. MILES DEFENDED GARGAN UNTIL SCORPION USED HIM AS A DISTRACTION TO ESCAPE. VENOM CARRIED SCORPION AWAY, BUT MILES WAS LEFT BEHIND...

ABSOLUTE CARNAGE

MILES MORALES

WARNING: THE EVENTS OF THIS STORY TAKE PLACE *AFTER* **ABSOLUTE CARNAGE #2.** IF YOU HAVEN'T READ IT YET, PROCEED AT YOUR OWN RISK!

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SPIDER-MAN CREATED BY STAN LEE & STEVE DITKO

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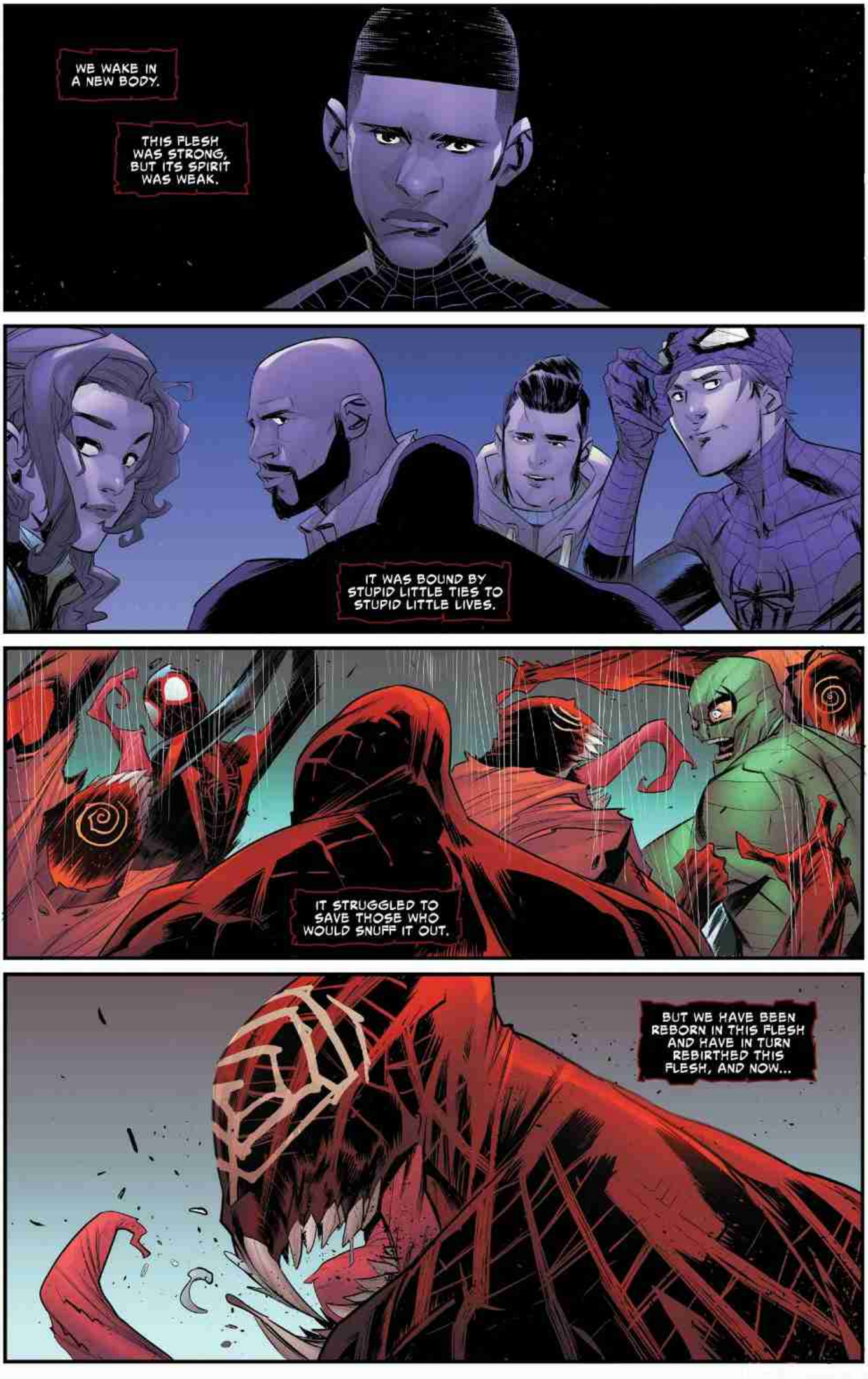
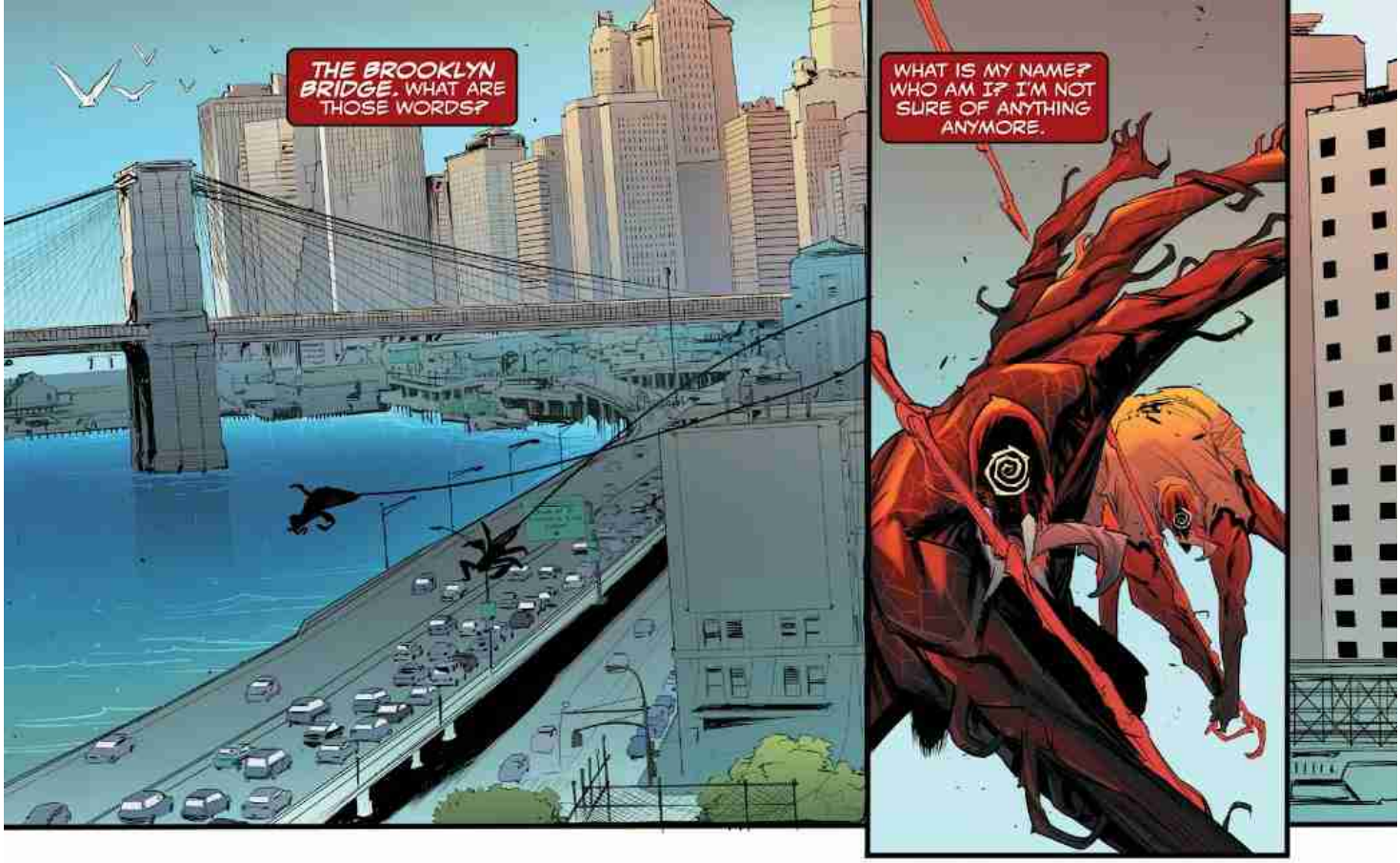

WE WAKE IN A NEW BODY.
THIS FLESH WAS STRONG, BUT ITS SPIRIT WAS WEAK.
IT WAS BOUND BY STUPID LITTLE TIES TO STUPID LITTLE LIVES.
IT STRUGGLED TO SAVE THOSE WHO WOULD SNUFF IT OUT.
BUT WE HAVE BEEN REBORN IN THIS FLESH AND HAVE IN TURN REBIRTHED THIS FLESH, AND NOW...

WITHIN US WE FEEL THE DEAD SPIRIT OF THIS FLESH. REACHING FOR CONTROL. BEGGING FOR ITS BODY.
BUT THESE ARE THE CRIES OF A HOPELESS GHOST. WE ARE JOINED WITH OUR FATHER. ONE WITH NOTHINGNESS.
OUR FATHER KNULL-THROUGH-CARNAGE HAS DESTROYED THE LITTLE LIVES WE LIVED BEFORE BEING TRANSFORMED.
AND NOW WE ARE OUR TRUE SELVES.

AHH, SPIDER-MAN, YOU'RE LOOKING MUCH BETTER TODAY.
YOU LOOK READY TO KILL A MAN. WHICH IS GOOD, 'CUZ I'M SENDING YOU TO KILL A MAN.
A REAL PAIN, BUT ONE WHOSE DEATH WILL SOW CONFUSION AND FEAR IN THOSE AROUND US. I KNOW YOU'LL DO ME PROUD.
ONE OF YOUR SIBLINGS JUST SAW HIM THROUGH A BIG, PRETTY WINDOW. YOU KNOW WHERE--OUR FAMILY CAN FEEL EACH OTHER.
TAKE HAPPY DAN WITH YOU. HE HASN'T HAD A CHANCE TO BE COVERED IN BLOOD SINCE THE LAST COUPLE HE KILLED.

AT THE MENTION OF BLOODY DEEDS, THE WEAK PART OF US TRIES TO WAKE.
WE SHOVE IT DOWN AND SMOTHER IT. IT WOULD DISPLEASE OUR UNCREATOR.
THERE IS NO ROOM FOR WEAKNESS IN OUR FATHER'S PERFECT DESIGN. WE ARE SURE IN OUR PURPOSE.

WE HAVE BEEN POINTED AT PREY. AND SO WE *HUNT!*


THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE. WHAT ARE THOSE WORDS?
WHAT IS MY NAME? WHO AM I? I'M NOT SURE OF ANYTHING ANYMORE.

THE BRIDGE, UNCLE AARON!
THAT'S RIGHT! OUR BRIDGE, LITTLE MAN.

THE BROOKLYN BRIDGE. PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD KNOW ABOUT IT AND IT LEADS TO US, MILES.

MILES...MY NAME IS MILES MORALES.
AGAIN THE DEAD SPIRIT OF THIS FLESH TRIES TO RISE...

...AND AGAIN WE SMASH IT TO NOTHINGNESS.
OUR FATHER HAS TOLD US THE ONE WE MUST KILL IS HERE.
KILL!
KILL!
HE WILL BE SO PROUD OF THE BLOOD WE SPILL!
CUT THE B.S., HERB. YOU KNOW VULPE COMMUNICATIONS WANTS THIS MEMOIR. THE PEOPLE WANT THIS MEMOIR!
JOURNALISM IS UNDER ATTACK, AND THE FOURTH ESTATE NEEDS THE STORY OF LEGENDARY CRUSADING NEWSMAN J. JONAH JAMESON!
JUST BECAUSE I'M THE PUBLISHER DOESN'T MAKE THIS SOLELY MY DECISION, JONAH! THERE ARE... CONCERNS. ABOUT... UH...VERACITY.
IS SOMEONE CALLING ME A LIAR, DAVE? ARE YOU CALLING ME A--

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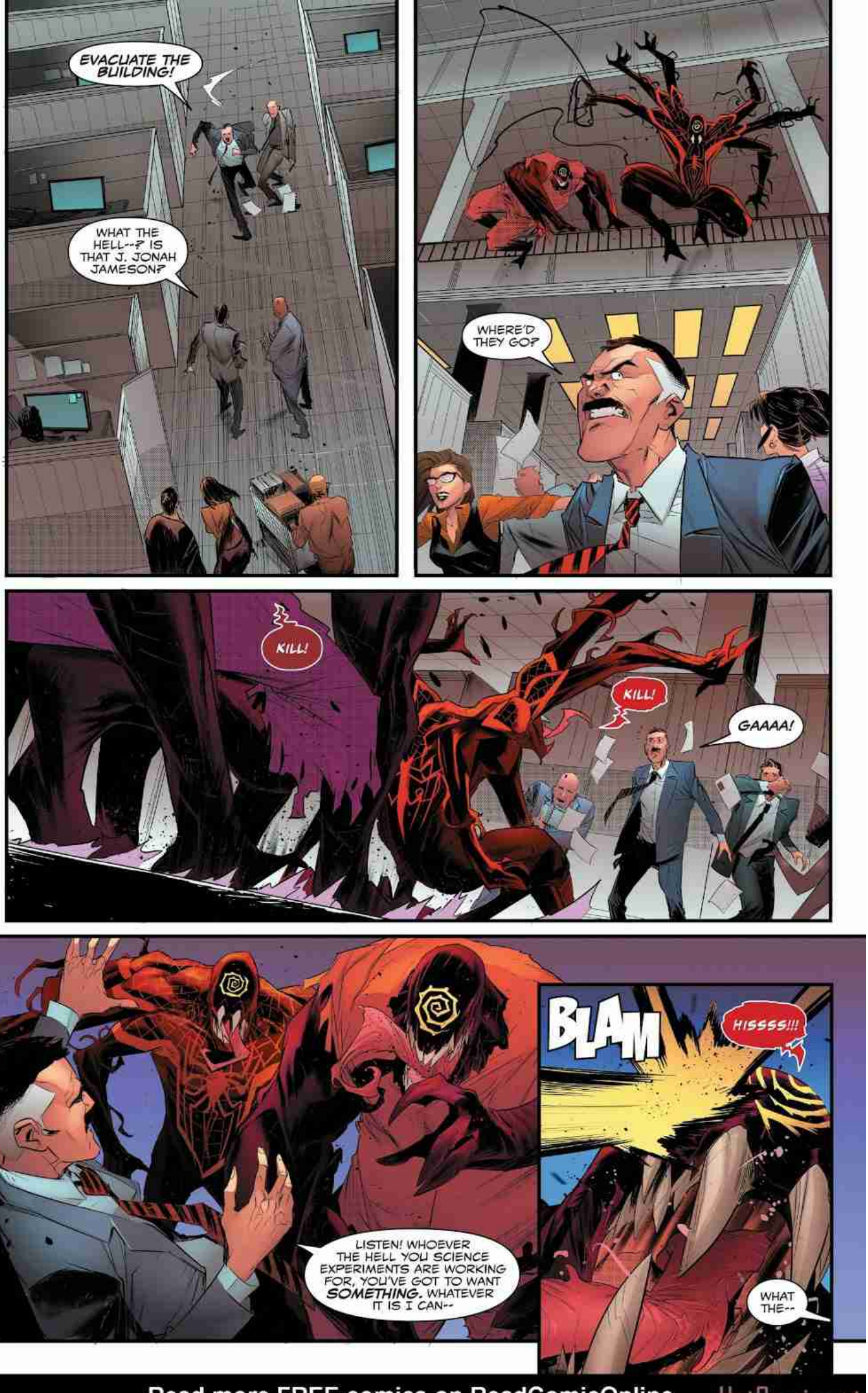
KILL!
KILL!
YOU RUN LIKE HELL THAT WAY, HERB! THESE FREAKS HAVE GOTTA BE AFTER ME!
THE FREAKS ARE ALWAYS AFTER ME.
KILL!
BETTER THAN YOU HAVE TRIED, GRUESOME!
KILL!


EVACUATE THE BUILDING!
WHAT THE HELL--? IS THAT J. JONAH JAMESON?
WHERE'D THEY GO?
KILL!
KILL!
GAAAA!
LISTEN! WHOEVER THE HELL YOU SCIENCE EXPERIMENTS ARE WORKING FOR, YOU'VE GOT TO WANT SOMETHING. WHATEVER IT IS I CAN--
BLAM
HISSSS!!!
WHAT THE--

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DON'T WORRY, MISTER JAMESON. VULPE COMMUNICATIONS IS UNDER THE PROTECTIVE SERVICES OF
SILVER SABLE.

KILL!
MISTER JAMESON, TAKE COVER!
UNNNH!
YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME TWICE, LADY!
CHOOM
CHOOM
RAWWWWR!
CHOOM
AHHHHHHH!!!
KILL!

AGAIN I TRY TO REMEMBER WHO I REALLY AM.
RAWWRRR!
BOSS, HELP! AAAAARRGH!
KILL!
BUT THE SMELL OF BLOOD IS IN THE AIR. THIS THING INSIDE ME IS TOO STRONG.
WHAT ARE YOU THINGS?

NO!
KILL!

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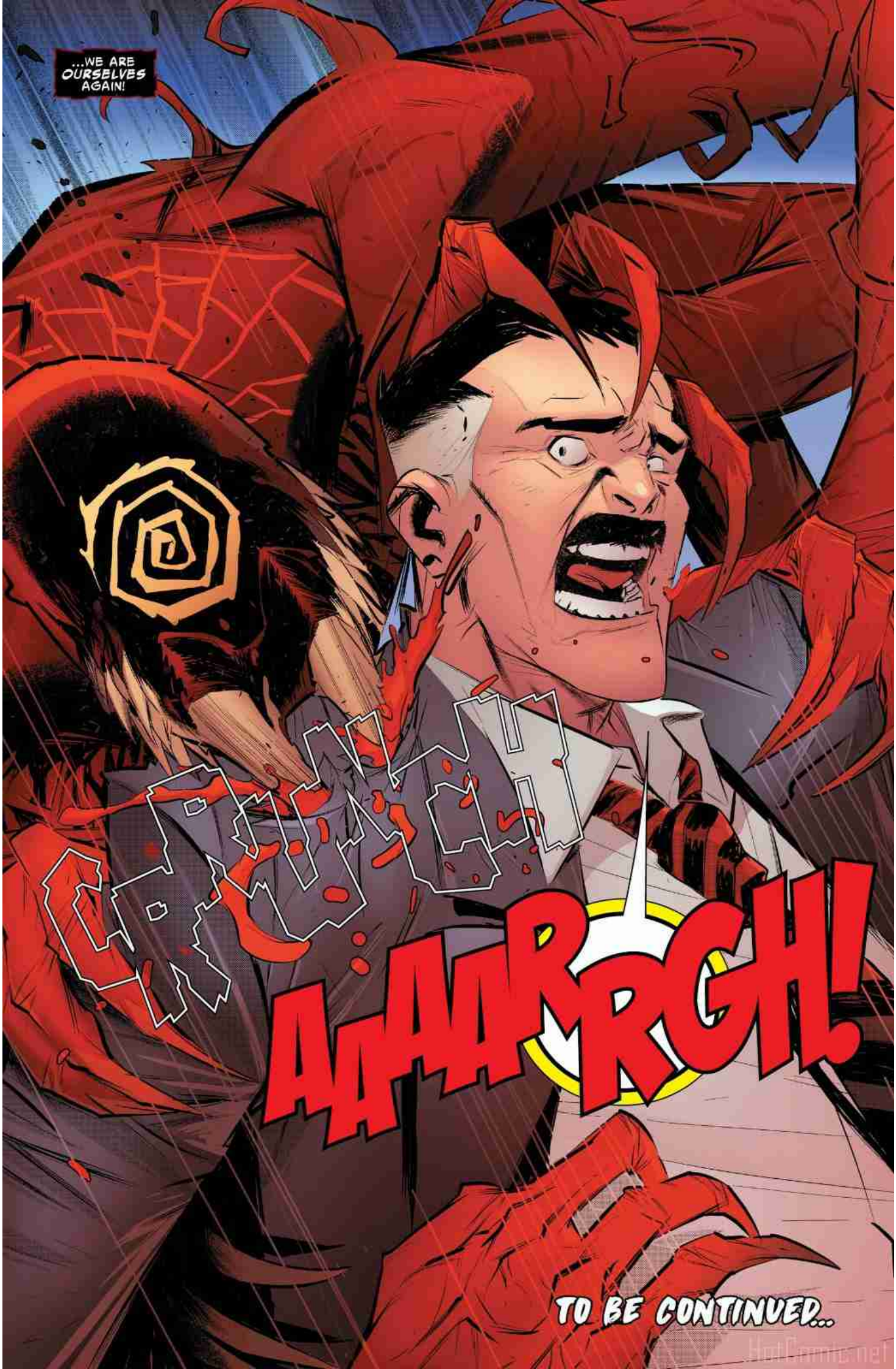
NO! STOP!
THIS ISN'T ME!
THE SPIRIT WE CALLED DEAD IS NOT DEAD. IT IS STRONGER THAN WE THOUGHT.
I CAN BARELY REMEMBER MY NAME, BUT THIS IS NOT ME.
SOMEHOW, IMPOSSIBLY, IT TAKES CONTROL OF US.
N-NOT ME!
K-KILL?
I AM ABSOLUTELY BILLING EXTRA FOR THIS.

KILL?
N-NO! NO KILL!
I RUN THE WAY I CAME. IT'S A MIRACLE I'M ABLE TO GET MY BODY TO MOVE.
I REMEMBER MY NAME--MILES MORALES. AND I HOLD ON TO IT LIKE A LIFE PRESERVER.
AND I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE WITH A NAME.
CARNAGE SAID WE WERE CONNECTED. I REACH OUT WITH MY MIND...
NO KILL?
LOOK, DAN, YOU'VE DONE BAD THINGS. BAD THINGS. THAT'S YOU. BUT YOU'RE NOT...THIS. YOU'RE STILL A HUMAN BEING.
DAN? DAN. MY MA CALLED ME DAN. BEFORE I KILLED HER.
THEY'RE INSIDE ME, MAN. MAKING ME KILL IN WAYS I DON'T LIKE. I WANT BLOOD ON MY FACE, BUT I WANNA SPILL IT! DON'T WANT TO DO WHAT THESE BRAIN MAGGOTS SAY.
WE'LL FIGHT IT. TOGETHER.
MAYBE WE CAN--
UNH!

YOU'RE NOT GETTING AWAY THAT EASILY, MONSTER.
HA! YOU'RE TOAST, FREAKSHOW! AND SOON YOU'RE GONNA TELL ME WHO THE HELL SENT YOU AFTER ME.
AGAIN THE SPIRIT OF THIS FLESH PROVES TOO WEAK. SO WE TAKE CONTROL.
NO! IT'S NOT--

WHAT--
FOR A MOMENT, WE STRUGGLED.
WHAM!
WHAM!
UNNH!
WHAM!
WHAM!
CRUNCH!
FOR A MOMENT, THIS FLESH'S DEAD SPIRIT MADE US WAVER.
NO!
BUT NOW...


...WE ARE OURSELVES AGAIN!
CRUNCH
AAAARRGH!
TO BE CONTINUED...

CLETUS' CLUBHOUSE

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EXECUTIVE EDITOR
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Greetings, readers!
I'm the lucky Editor of this comic--Spider-Assistant Editor Kathleen. In much the same way that Carnage's mind-control maggot has taken over Miles, I'VE taken over this Miles Morales edition of CLETUS' CLUBHOUSE. And that means I'm following my own agenda! Get ready for some Spider-Man(s) news! And one letter!

Saladin,
So! Here on MMSM, specifically issue #9, things are getting really good quality, really quick! I don't know if I like Uncle Aaron as the Prowler, though...? What about Hobie Brown--how can there be two Prowlers?

Cheers,
Andrew J. Shaw

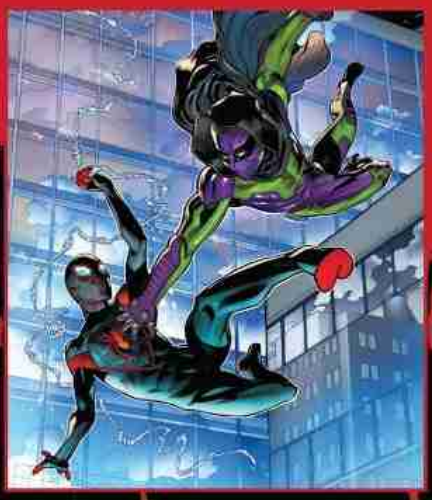
Hi, Andrew! I hope you don't mind my running your letter in this title, but I thought there was a good chance you'd be reading this issue. Good point! Issue #9 of MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN is really good quality! For anyone who missed it, MMSM #9 was the end of a two-parter in which Miles had been kidnapped and experimented on by an unknown organization. MILES' team--Saladin Ahmed, Javier Garrón, David Curiel, and Cory Petit--dug into themes about claustrophobia and perseverance while boldly playing with page layouts and panel size. Here's just a peek from issue #8!

Check the back issue bins at your local comics shop--we did a second printing of #8 in July, so there might be copies kicking around.

Regarding the Prowler, Andrew, by now regular readers of FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SPIDER-MAN will know that Hobie reluctantly redonned the Prowler's purple cape in issue #7, but he's since landed a white-collar gig. (How'd that happen? Check out FNSM #10, drawn with a heck-ton of life and action by Ken Lashley, who returns to the series next month in FNSM #13!)

Anyhoo, the upshot is that Aaron Davis is the one and only Prowler in the 718 (of the 616). And if I'm quick enough on my feet, I can give you all the FIRST peek at Javier Garrón's inks for the cover to MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #13, featuring Spider-Man and the Prowler on the run from a familiar...we'll say "face," but it's more the overall head-shape that'll ring a bell.

In other Miles news, make sure you don't miss the oversized spectacular MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #10 (#250 in Legacy numbering) on shelves now! If you're coming to Miles via the ABSOLUTE CARNAGE event, MMSM #10 and next month's issue #11 are both clean issues to jump onto. If you're enjoying what Saladin is doing in another office's sandbox, wait until you see what he does on his home turf!



MILES MORALES: SPIDER-MAN #11

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Back on the Carnage end of the playground, Nick Spencer, Ryan Ottley, Cliff Rathburn, and Nathan Fairbairn are also taking their turn on the monkey bars in AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #30 (out this very week) and #31! They're a deep dive into Spidey's scariest villains, old and new, where Spencer once again shows off his love and knowledge of the Spidey canon while recontextualizing the past in a new story. Look for nods to ASM #105 (available on Marvel Unlimited) to fully appreciate the tapestry!

It's a wide web we're weaving! With room for all kinds of books, including another miniseries I'm proudly editing: AMAZING MARY JANE by Leah Williams and Carlos Gomez, with covers by the legendary Humberto Ramos and Edgar Delgado! (Did you guys see that MARVEL COMICS #1000 cover they did for D23? I'm still charmed every time I look at it.) Look--I can't guarantee that if you like ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: MILES MORALES, you'll like AMJ, but I know I love them both! Give MJ a chance. If you regret it, I'll meekly accept your letters telling me my personal taste is useless as a barometer.

AMAZING MARY JANE #1

Back to the main event! ABSOLUTE CARNAGE is in full swing, and if you're looking for some other miniseries to check out, we've seen glowing letters from you on every tie-in the Venom Office is putting out! So if you make a photocopy of the checklist below, hang it on your wall, throw some darts at it, and pick up every title you hit, you'll get some weird looks and some solid comics. And what more can any of us hope for, really?

See you soon!
Kathleen

ABSOLUTE CARNAGE CHECKLIST

AUGUST
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE #1
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE #2
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: MILES MORALES #1
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SCREAM #1
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: LETHAL PROTECTORS #1
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE VS. DEADPOOL #1
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SEPARATION ANXIETY #1
- X VENOM #17

SEPTEMBER
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE #3
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: MILES MORALES #2
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SCREAM #2
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: LETHAL PROTECTORS #2
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE VS. DEADPOOL #2
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: GHOST RIDER - SYMBIOTE OF VENGEANCE #1
- X ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN #1
- X VENOM #18
- X AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #30

OCTOBER
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE #4
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: MILES MORALES #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: SCREAM #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: LETHAL PROTECTORS #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE VS. DEADPOOL #3
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: IMMORTAL HULK #1
- VENOM #19
- AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #31
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE: AVENGERS #1

NOVEMBER
- ABSOLUTE CARNAGE #5
- VENOM #20

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ZONE